

Snowfall and Pheasant Survival - 2008

An Educated Guess at Forecasting Weather Related Impacts

This package is intended to provide quick insight at how a pheasant will survive 2008's long and cold winter. The table shows regional and statewide snowfall data as compiled using NOAA and IDALS sources. Survival is estimated using our best and most current data available regarding pheasant survival and snowfall conditions.

Important variables such as number of days with snow cover (snowdays), minimum temperature, timing of events, and specific regional (habitat) issues are not considered in this estimate. Moreover, this is an estimate as if winter (or snowfall) would end Feb 19, however there are several weeks remaining of potentially more snowfall (winter). Additionally, this is winter survival only and does not account for what might occur during spring nesting...

Having said this, the table shows a statewide pheasant winter survival less than normal for 2008, and regions with heavier snow can expect the least survival. Notice a marked line across the state from SW to NE as having the most snowfall this year; with the NW, NC, WC, and SW folks being spared the extremes.

District	Snowfall ¹ '07-'08 (in.)	Normal ² Snowfall (in.)	Departure ³	
			from Normal (%)	Expected ⁴ Survival
1 NW	26.2	26.7	-2%	about normal
2 NC	27.9	28.9	-4%	about normal
3 NE	50.1	29.3	71%	below normal
4 WC	24.2	27.1	-11%	about normal
5 C	34.3	25.2	36%	below normal
6 EC	50.9	24.3	110%	below normal
7 SW	22.3	21.4	4%	about normal
8 SC	42.5	21.7	96%	below normal
9 SE	40.5	22.8	77%	below normal
Statewide	35.2	25.3	39%	below normal

1- Snowfall beginning Dec 1 through Feb 19 (not a complete winter, by comparison)

2- 1961-1990 avg. cumulative snowfall from Dec 1 - Mar 31

3- As of Feb 19, 2008

4- Using our best and most current data available, and as if winter gets no worse by March 31.

